

January 13, 1998

FEB - 6 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,
Malers

No. of Copies rec'd 0 H

MARCHED WINE

January 13, 1998

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
FEB - 6 1998 FEDERAL COMMINICATIONS COMMISSION CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely, Eller J. Henry

TA PANTE OF TENED

WORFI FILE COPY . BESING

January 13, 1998

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely, Gretna S, Worderson
No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABODE

January 13, 1998 MAKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman

Chairman
Federal Communications Commissio RECEIVED

| CC Docket No. 97-231 |

Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Ruly Chusar

No. of Copies rec'd 001

January 13, 1998

(KF) SIE (KPY ORIGINAL)

The Honorable William Kennard

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECURITARIA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

| CC Docket No. 97-231 |

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,

No. of Copies rec'd U+1

Mae & Briley

EXPLAIF OUP DATE ME

January 13, 1998

FEB - 6 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,

No. of Copies rec'd

List ABCDE

We will make

January 13, 1998

RECEIVED

PEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

| CC Docket No. 97-231 |

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,

Barbara H Harris

No of Copies rec'd 0+1

JUNE SIF CUPY GRISING

January 13, 1998

RECEIVED

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,

Elgan Claffagor Depies rec'd Of List ABCDE

EXPANTE

OCKET FILE () OP OR ON W January 13, 1998

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.





January 13, 1998

FEB - 6 1998

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

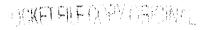
Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely,

No. of Copies rec'd UCT





January 13, 1998

FEB - 6 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable William Kennard Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 97-231

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As a retired BellSouth employee, I keep informed about matters that are important to my company and to the telecommunications industry in general. In particular, I have been extremely interested in the implementation of the Telecommunications Act, and frankly I am disappointed that more progress has not been made. I would like to take this opportunity to express not only my opinion but also the opinion of thousands of other BellSouth retirees. In fact, you will likely receive numerous copies of this same letter from my former co-workers.

Chairman Kennard, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to fully deregulate the telecommunications industry, allowing all telecommunications companies an opportunity to enter segments of the market formerly closed to them. All Congress required the local companies such as BellSouth to do was to open their networks to their competitors and to ensure that their entry into the long-distance market was in the public's best interest.

I believe BellSouth has done exactly what it was requested to do, not only by Congress but also by our state Public Service Commission. My company has painstakingly met each and every one of the 14 points on the federal checklist and has invested millions of dollars making sure competitors can connect to BellSouth's operational support systems.

Furthermore, BellSouth has overwhelmingly proven that its entry into long distance is in the public interest. Real competition will lower prices, increase the number of choices consumers have among services and service providers and will enable customers to once again select one company to handle all their communications needs. In today's fast-paced world, that kind of convenience is a welcome change.

Finally, if BellSouth is allowed to compete in the long-distance market, that will encourage the long-distance companies to compete in the local market for home telephone service. Until then, the three large long-distance carriers will continue to drag their feet in the residential market while they selectively seek to serve large companies in major metropolitan areas. This kind of cherry-picking harms the average customer and threatens universal service.

I and my fellow retired BellSouth employees strongly urge you to approve BellSouth's long-distance application in Louisiana and let BellSouth spark real competition in this state.

Sincerely

No. of Ocpies rec'd